

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, JUNE 24, 1847.

We neglected to call attention last week to the series of papers on Slavery, by William Jackson, the second number of which appears in today's *Era*. We owe the writer an apology for long delaying his article, but they have lost nothing by keeping.

We are crowded with communications, and would be happy to accommodate all our friends at once. But, let patience have its perfect work. Every now and then we overhail our pigeon-holes, so as not to forget the favors which have been showered upon us. Let no one despair. We often find just the very spark for a communication, after it has been waiting for three months. Meantime, correspondents must remember that, for obvious reasons, we must not neglect the miscellaneous part of the paper.

On the fourth page we present both sides of the question of religious instruction among slaves. The letter of a Presbyter of Charleston, S. C., to the Bishop of Oxford, has been circulated in many Southern papers. They will now have an opportunity of seeing the letters from an Episcopalian to Bishop Eves, (the predecessor of the way, of a son of the first Chief Justice of the United States.) It will be concluded in our next.

COMMUNICATIONS.

That our friends, whose favors are occasionally so long "delayed," may understand the reasons, we subjoin a list of the communications on hand, awaiting publication:

1. Views of a Western Man on Seeing Slavery, by W. H. F.

4. Easy on Slavery, by William Jackson, three more numbers.

5. Letters From and About Virginians, with Remarks, by L. T.

6. Letter from Jacob Seely.

7. Communication from A. B. Church.

8. Review, by L. T.

9. Letter of Hirson Wilson.

10. Reform—Tolerance—the Clergy, by W. G. K.

11. Ministers—Reform, by Eleutheria.

12. Constitutionality or Unconstitutionality of Slavery, by E.

13. The Other Side, by D.

14. Intention of the Framers of the Constitution.

15. Facts Worth Knowing.

16. Testimony of the Founders of our Institutions.

17. Difficulties in the Way of Emancipation.

18. Bible Doctrine of Servitude, by W. W.

19. Communication from M. B. Townsend.

20. Communication from Dr. W., of Philadelphia, enclosing a selection from the Non-Slaveholders.

21. Communication from W. Holderness.

22. The Laws of Slavery in Louisiana.

23. The Right of the Slave to the Bible, with Prefatory Remarks, by L. T.

24. Slavery, as Created and Established by Law.

25. The National Convention, by "Down East."

26. Communication from William S. Porter.

(Will Mr. P. please send us the Charter Oak referred to?)

27. Emily and Alice, on American Slavery.

28. Communication from a Carolinian.

29. The Spirit of Freedom, by Rev. D. True-

man.

30. Communication from L., of Cincinnati.

Some of these communications demand special attention, and their effect upon an early publication. These, of course, will take precedence of others, which are interesting without any reference to time.

NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENTS AND READERS.

It is impossible to write well with a fettered pen. Hence it is with great reluctance we interfere with correspondents, choosing rather, where serious injury will not probably result, to let them speak all that is in their hearts, in their own style, though occasionally, perhaps, to our own judgment. We do this because no editor is liable, because tastes are various, and because much may be said in a way that will offend some of our readers. Nevertheless, we reserve the right to withdraw correspondence as we see fit, or to omit such parts as our judgment dictates, taking care, however, not to supersede by such omission the views of a contributor. But if we exercise this right leniently, the reader must understand it is because we would rather err on the side of free discussion than against it. It is folly to expect perfection in a newspaper. God's world is full of imperfection, owing to man's fall. Is not an editor, part of it; and shall the little picture he weekly presented to the public be to be compared with the original? Some of the best writing done by men singly, can hardly be equalled in the colonies, before the Revolution!

JOHN VANDERZEE.

Another column of our paper contains the announcement of the death of this individual, whose name and principles have been widely known throughout the country. The press of the United States corps, so pertinaciously urged, and so eloquently opposed, and which terminated, last winter, in the capture of the highest point of our land. Mr. Vanderczee, who was highly esteemed by all who knew him, as an upright, benevolent man, was one of those sterling characters, who in the sphere in which they are placed, are to be regarded as models of virtue to be imitated. I mention him, because he left his mark on every soul he came in contact with, and did much to impress the minds of the young.

That position was contested, it is not, that while the Emancipator should agree with us on the main point, we should be charged with treason, because he was a friend to the slaves, and a slaveholder.

Rather remarkable is it not, that, while the Emancipator should agree with us on the main point, we should be charged with treason, because he was a friend to the slaves, and a slaveholder.

He believes it is his duty to expose the conduct of a slaveholder, and to demonstrate to them that he can stand up, whenever he pleases, to say and do precisely what he may say the best?

What an absurdity! And so some thousands of people, living over a surface of some thousands of miles, constituted variously, educated diversely, circumstantially different, unit and become subscribers to a newspaper whose leading object they approve. They believe its editor honest, upright, and benevolent, and demonstrate to them that he can stand up, whenever he pleases, to say and do precisely what he may say the best?

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THE NATIONAL ERA.

For the National Era.
PORTRAITS FOR THE PEOPLE.

BY JOHN SMITH THE YOUNGER.

NO. 12.—Continued.

THE POLITICIAN IN PETTICOATS.

CHAP. V.

Mr. Quartermaster Diaper reached his fingers in a terrible state of excitement. His hand had limped him over when arrayed in the splendid uniform of the Washington Invincible Fly-shooters. But still worse than the indignity to the corps, the honor of a Scout had been wounded! The predeane Bruce had offered insult to the blood of the Bruce!

The wrathful Diaper walked up and down his apartment, end, pausing every now and then, smote the table furiously with his clenched fist. At length the paroxysm became so violent that he was compelled to lie down in it, in state of nervous alarm, rushed up stairs, and, knocking at the door of the Quartermaster's room, in one voice demanded that he should inform them what was the cause of all the disturbance?

"I must have his blood!" shouted Diaper, rushing to open the door.

"Oh! Jeunes! Jeunes! My Jeunes! Won't you be still?" shouted the wife of his bosom.

"Oh! Mercy! Murder! Murder!" screamed the rest of the women, fully convinced that they stood on the threshold of some terrible business of manslaughter.

"Yes! I must have blood—blood—blood!" shrieked again Mr. Diaper, overturning a chair and making another furious assault on the ladies; and, throwing open the window, the landlady speedily awoke the whole neighborhood by her repeated and vigorous calls for assistance.

Several of the inmates of the adjacent houses male and female, came rushing to the rescue, and, bursting open the door, made a very unmerciful entrance into Mrs. Diaper's room. The wrathful Diaper stood in the centre of the apartment, with sword unsheathed, and making desperate passes at himself in the glass. His wife threw herself into his arms, and murmuring, "Oh! Jeunes! Jeunes!" burst into a fit of violent hysterical sobbing, whilst the gentlemen looked under the table for the mangled remains of his feet. But no evidence of murder being apparent, the landlady and those friends who had so promptly rendered their aid, hurriedly withdrew, and turned their backs to the state of the case, very considerably retreating from the apartment, leaving Mr. Diaper in the hands of his wife and her affectionate mother.

Silence, however, was by no means restored to the house, for the rest of the Quartermaster's apartment was wasted by a scene of frantic and mortal horrors the like of which continued till at least the soprano having fairly lost itself in a squalid, and the deep base of "Jeunes!" having spent its last effort, the ladies were compelled to bring it to a close. Mr. Diaper, now fairly vanquished, doggedly shamed to the doors and hastening from them to his bedchamber, he passed the night in a quiet cowering, and a pale, listless stupor, with his eyes half closed, and his breathing shallow, as though he had been deeply buried in a dream.

"Murder! Murder! Help! Help!" shouted the ladies; and, throwing open the window, the landlady speedily awoke the whole neighborhood by her repeated and vigorous calls for assistance.

Writing materials were now called for by Mr. Sprig, and a pen and ink stand was produced, which was handed to me to sign. Mr. Buckeye to the deadly encounter. Diaper was exceedingly valiant that it was with great difficulty he could be induced to yield to the demands of his master, who had foolishly ventured within the sphere of his wrath. He at last yielded to the earnest entreaties of Sprig, who was very much alarmed at the result of his master's rage, and his master's sympathy might find a much more natural vent in efforts to remove the cruel oppressions of the factory system in his own country, than in a crusade against the slave.

Mr. Sprig was much delighted with his companion that it was with no little difficulty he restrained himself from giving him, in the instant, a friendly kick in the head, in token of his affectionate sympathy.

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Mr. Sprig now proceeded on his friend's mission, and, after a short stay at the hotel, and those friends who had so promptly rendered their aid, hurriedly withdrew, and turned their backs to the state of the case, very considerably retreating from the apartment, leaving Mr. Diaper in the hands of his wife and her affectionate mother.

In one minute, neighbor," said Mr. Buckeye, "will I finish this game; in the meantime, walk into some of that 'old rye' I always stick to the 'rye'—spades again! Will, Judge, you're a scamp."

"I have a few words to say to you, privately, Mr. Sprig, with an air of dignity which showed he was fully conscious of his distinguished position.

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of dersion. "an apology I speak of I say, I see, Mr. Diaper; surely we must have an apology; on course, we must get an apology. That's what we are going to fight for. In a Council of War, Mr. Diaper, a general of soldiers, to obtain satisfaction, and, on course, that implies an apology."

"Yes, but suppose that before?" began Diaper, in reply to his friend, who would not, however, hear the rest of the sentence.

"Diaper, it is true you are a Scotchman," remarked Mr. Sprig, with solemnity, "and is probably a good soldier full in the face, but I believe you are not without honor; that is my impression. I may be in error; to err is human. Mr. Diaper, to forgive divine. But I am descended from the great Brian Boru, who had a hundred kings to wait on him at table. You have given me your confidence; I have adopted your name, and, in my imagination, I am a knight in shining armor, and the blessed bones of my illustrious ancestor, I'll never desert you till you meet him in the field. In case you should fall, I have a noble record to fall back on, and, when I am on the blessed cross, my name will be recorded in the United States of America, that although I was a Scotchman, that was your misfortune and not your fault, you stood up like a man and died like a lion in the arms of Michael O'Donahue Sprig!"

Having delivered himself of this speech, Mr. Sprig very satisfactorily laid a hand on his master's shoulder, and, turning him about, caused to express his great resolution, and his sharp little eyes keenly fixed on the visage of Diaper, he availed of the reply of that friend:

"Murder! Murder! Help! Help!" shouted a thunderstruck Diaper, in a tone which sounded like a bugle call.

"Murder! Murder! Help! Help!" shouted the ladies; and, throwing open the window, the landlady speedily awoke the whole neighborhood by her repeated and vigorous calls for assistance.

This touching appeal had a profound effect upon Sprig. He was almost moved to tears, and, according with particular vivacity, the soundings of the instrument, he turned to his own contiguous example and question, rather than to the additional tumult of his master's words.

Bravely, Mr. Diaper, with a smile, and a frankness which was quite refreshing, turned to his companion, and, placing a hand on his shoulder, said:

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